



## **LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

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March 05, 2013

The Honorable Board of Directors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE CITIES EXCESS FUNDS  
AVAILABLE TO THE SECOND SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT FOR  
GRANTS TO THE CITIES OF CARSON, COMPTON, CULVER CITY, GARDENA, HAWTHORNE,  
INGLEWOOD, LAWDALE AND LYNWOOD FOR VARIOUS PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS  
(SECOND DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate a total of \$2,000,000 in Cities Excess Funds available to the Second Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, \$250,000 each to the cities of Carson, Compton, Culver City, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale and Lynwood for various park improvement projects.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Find the proposed park improvement projects in the cities of Carson, Compton, Culver City, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, and Lynwood categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act because the projects consist of repair, maintenance, minor alteration, and rehabilitation of existing public structures or facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination, replacement or reconstruction of existing structures or facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced, and construction of new, small structures for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the projects.
2. Certify that the Board, as a responsible agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, has independently considered and reached its own conclusions regarding the environmental effects

of the proposed Hogan Park Project and the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program adopted by the City of Lawndale on July 13, 2011 as lead agency; determine that the documents adequately address the environmental impacts of the proposed project; find that your Board has complied with the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act with respect to the process for a responsible agency and adopt by reference the City's Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

3. Allocate a total of \$2,000,000 in Cities Excess Funds available to the Second Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, \$250,000 each to the cities of Carson, Compton, Culver City, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale and Lynwood for various park improvement projects.

4. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants in the amount of \$250,000 to each of the cities of Carson, Compton, Culver City, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale and Lynwood for various park improvement projects if applicable conditions have been met and authorize the Director to administer the grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate a total of \$2,000,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Second Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), for park improvement projects to the cities of Carson, Compton, Culver City, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale and Lynwood as described below:

- City of Carson - \$250,000 for removal and installation of outdoor fitness zones at Anderson, Calas, Dolphin, Dominguez, and Hemingway Parks. The project is supplemented with \$30,785 in city general funds.
- City of Compton - \$250,000 for swimming pool improvements at Lueders Park and Gonzales Park.
- City of Culver City - \$250,000 for playground and Americans with Disability Act improvements at Syd Kronenthal Park.
- City of Gardena - \$250,000 for gymnasium and auditorium refurbishment including restroom and accessibilities improvements; and installation of an outdoor fitness course at Rowley Park. The project is supplement with \$250,000 in Quimby funds.
- City of Hawthorne - \$250,000 for irrigation and turf improvements; pathway, picnic area and tennis court surface refurbishment; lighting system improvements; and sports center ventilation and floor improvements at Memorial Center Park. The project is supplemented with \$27,800 in city general funds.
- City of Inglewood - \$250,000 for roof and flooring refurbishment at the Vincent Park Veterans building; installation of an energy-efficient heating and air conditioning system in the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center at Darby Park; and installation of an outdoor fitness course at North Park. The project is supplemented with \$25,000 in city general funds.
- City of Lawndale - \$250,000 for the expansion of the Hogan Tot Lot to include additional open space and picnic amenities. The project is supplemented with \$37,500 in city general funds.
- City of Lynwood - \$250,000 for the installation of outdoor community fitness zone and sports

courts and fields rehabilitation at Lynwood City Park.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District), be authorized to award the grants to the cities, when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, if applicable, and to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by your Board.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) by enhancing health-promoting recreational opportunities and access in local parks in the Second Supervisorial District.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Sufficient appropriation for the Excess Funds grants, in the amount of \$2,000,000, is budgeted in the Second Supervisorial District's portion of the District Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. All eight of the cities have met this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grants will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Second Supervisorial District for cities projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director will be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, your Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of District grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grants as well.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

All public agency projects funded by the District are required to comply with the CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The City of Carson is the lead agency for the improvement projects at Anderson Park, Calas Park, Dolphin Park, Dominguez Park, and Hemingway Park. The City of Compton is the lead agency for the swimming pool improvement projects at Lueders Park and Gonzales Park. The City of Culver City is the lead agency for the Syd Kronenthal Park Playground

Rehabilitation Project. The City of Gardena is the lead agency for the Rowley Park Auditorium & Playground Renovation Project. The City of Hawthorne is the lead agency for the Memorial Park Rehabilitation Project. The City of Inglewood is the lead agency for the improvement projects at Darby Park, North Park, and Vincent Park. The City of Lynwood is the lead agency for the Lynwood City Park Recreation & Athletic Facilities Improvements Project. The City of Lawndale is the lead agency for the Hogan Park Project.

The proposed improvement projects at Anderson Park, Calas Park, Dolphin Park, Dominguez Park, and Hemingway Park in the City of Carson are categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the projects consist of maintenance or minor alteration of existing public structures or facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

The proposed swimming pool improvement projects at Lueders Park and Gonzales Park in the City of Compton are categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the projects consist of repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public structures or facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

The proposed Syd Kronenthal Park Playground Rehabilitation Project in the City of Culver City is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project consists of rehabilitation of existing public structures or facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

The proposed Rowley Park Auditorium & Playground Renovation Project in the City of Gardena is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project consists of minor alteration of existing public structures or facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

The proposed Memorial Park Rehabilitation Project in the City of Hawthorne is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project consists of rehabilitation or repair of existing public structures or facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

The proposed improvement projects at Darby Park and Vincent Park in the City of Inglewood are categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15302 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 2 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the projects consist of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures or facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced.

The proposed North Park Improvement Project in the City of Inglewood is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15303 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 3 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project consists of construction of new, small structures.

The proposed Lynwood City Park Recreation & Athletic Facilities Improvements Project in the City of Lynwood is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project consists of repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public structures or facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

The City of Lawndale (City) has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed Hogan Park Project. The City, in its role as lead agency in matters pertaining to compliance with CEQA, adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration on July 13, 2011, found and determined that with the imposition of mitigation measures as a condition of approval of the proposed project there was no substantial evidence that the project would have a significant effect on the environment; found that the Mitigated Negative Declaration reflected the independent judgment of the City; approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration ; and found that the project will have no adverse effect on fish and wildlife resources. As part of the scope of the Mitigated Negative Declaration, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program has been included. This program will be implemented and monitored by the City. With respect to your Board's approval of the Hogan Park Project described herein, the County also acts as a responsible agency for the purposes of CEQA, and therefore, we recommend that your Board independently consider and adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met.

The Project Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by the District but are required so that the eight cities may proceed with their park improvement projects in the Second Supervisorial District, if all applicable conditions are met.

### **CONCLUSION**

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects/Debt Management Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

3/5/2013

Page 6

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", with a stylized, flowing script.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:IV

WRO:LB

c: Chief Executive Office  
County Counsel  
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors